Dr. Rebecca Garland is the Deputy State Superintendent of the Department of Public Instruction. Before assuming this position, Dr. Garland served as the Chief Academic Officer for DPI and the Executive Director of the NC State Board of Education. In her thirty plus years in education, she has also been a teacher in the Harnett County School System, a DPI consultant in content and Gifted Education, a Director of Middle Schools/Arts/ and Gifted Education for Alamance-Burlington Schools, and an Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction for Orange County Schools.

Dr. Garland holds a BA in History from UNC-G, a Master's in Education from Campbell University, and a Doctorate in Education Leadership from NC State University. She was elected to Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society at both Campbell and NC State for excellence in her graduate studies.

Dr. Garland is the recipient of the Outstanding Service Award given by the NC Association for the Gifted and Talented, the 2013 Educator of the Year Award given by the NC Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, and a Campbell University School of Education Lifetime Achievement Award. In addition to serving on a number of boards and commissions, she spends her time reading political thrillers, attending Wolfpack sporting events, and playing with her grandson, Theodore.